

**CONTINUING APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL UNDER RULE 1.53(b)
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

CUSTOMER NO. 004372

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03945 U.S.PTO
10/706971



13281 U.S.PTO
111403

Mail Stop: Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(b) is a divisional application of prior pending Application No. 09/361,158, filed July 27, 1999,

For (Title): METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DRY-ETCHING HALF-TONE PHASE-SHIFT FILMS, HALF-TONE PHASE-SHIFT PHOTOMASKS AND METHOD FOR THE PREPARATION THEREOF, AND SEMICONDUCTOR CIRCUITS AND METHOD FOR THE FABRICATION THEREOF

By (Inventors): Takaei SASAKI (Saitama, Japan); Noriyuki HARASHIMA (Saitama, Japan); Satoshi AOYAMA (Hyogo, Japan); and Shouichi SAKAMOTO (Hyogo, Japan)

1. A Declaration and Power of Attorney is attached. The attached Declaration and Power of Attorney is:
 - a. A copy of the Declaration and Power of Attorney from the parent application. (Used with the same or fewer inventors and (a) a copy of the prior application or (b) a revised, reformatted or edited version of the prior application that does not contain new matter.)
 - b. A new Declaration and Power of Attorney. (Used with the same, fewer or additional inventors and (a) a copy of the prior application, (b) a revised, reformatted or edited version of the prior application that does not contain new matter, or (c) a new specification.)
2. The filing fee based on entry of the concurrently filed Preliminary Amendment is calculated below:

CLAIMS IN THE APPLICATION AFTER ENTRY OF ANY PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT NOTED BELOW

FOR:			SMALL ENTITY		OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY	
	NO. FILED	NO. EXTRA	RATE	FEES	RATE	FEES
BASIC FEE				\$ 385		
TOTAL CLAIMS	4 - 20	= 0	x 9 =	\$	x 18	\$ 0
INDEP CLAIMS	4 - 3	= 1	x 43 =	\$	x 86	\$ 86
<input type="checkbox"/> MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS PRESENTED			+145 =	\$	+290	\$ 0
			TOTAL	\$	TOTAL	\$ 856

* If the difference is less than zero, enter "0".

3. Check No. 369149 in the amount of \$856.00 to cover the filing fee is attached. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any other fees that may be required to complete this filing, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 01-2300.
4. Cancel claims 1 - 14 and 19 - 20 of the application before calculating the filing fee. At least one independent claim is retained for filing purposes.

5. Amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence:
--This application is a divisional application which claims the benefit of pending application Serial No. 09/361,158, filed July 27, 1999. The disclosure of the prior application is hereby incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.--
6. Formal drawings (7 sheets, Figs. 1 - 9) are attached.
7. Priority of Japanese Patent application No. 10-309010, filed October 29, 1998 is claimed under 35 U.S.C. §119 and/or §365(b).
8. The certified copy was filed in prior Application No. 09/361,158 on July 27, 1999. Receipt of the certified copy was acknowledged on September 3, 2003 (Paper #19).
9. The prior application is assigned of record to ULVAC COATING CORPORATION and MITSUBISHI DENKI KABUSHIKI KAISHA recorded at Reel 010233, Frame 0273, and Reel 010234, Frame 0428 on September 14, 1999.
10. A Preliminary Amendment is attached.
11. An Information Disclosure Statement is attached along with Form PTO-1449.
12. The Power of Attorney in the application is to Charles M. Marmelstein, Reg. No. 25,895; George E. Oram, Jr., Reg. No. 27,931; Richard J. Berman, Reg. No. 39,107; Raymond J. Ho, Reg. No. 41,838; Wilburn Chesson, Reg. No. 41,668; Murat Ozgu, Reg. No. 44,275; Robert K. Carpenter, Reg. No. 34,794; Rustan J. Hill, Reg. No. 37,351; Hans J. Crosby, Reg. No. 44,634; Lynne D. Anderson, Reg. No. 46,412; Bala Sundararajan, Reg. No. 50,900; King Wong, Reg. No. 37,500; Sam Huang, Reg. No. 48,430; Rhonda L. Barton, Reg. No. 47,271; Marylee Jenkins, Reg. No. 37,645; Leo Loughlin, Reg. No. 42,811; Sarah Stahnke, Reg. No. 54,854; Janine Carlan, Reg. No. 42,387; and John Hsu, Reg. No. 45,563.
13. Address all future communications to:

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Respectfully submitted,

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